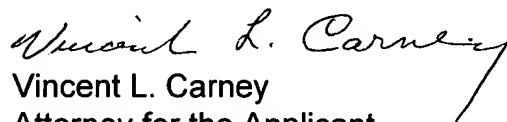


## REMARKS

By this response, the entire "amendments to the claims section" of the amendment dated January 26, 2004, has been corrected and is being re-submitted herewith in response to the notice of non-compliant amendment mailed February 17, 2004. Claims 16, 17, 20, and 23-31 have been corrected to indicate the proper status identifier and the "amendments to the claims section" begins on its own page rather than on the introductory page as required by the Examiner.

Since each of the claims now in this application defines patentably over each of the cited references and every combination of the cited references and since the claims are proper and definite, it is respectfully requested that they be allowed and this application be passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,



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--Our Ref: 638-29-9-1